

# Lake County <sup>NH</sup> commissioners approve report <sup>9-15-11</sup>

## Officials pass resolution to accept factfinder report

**John Arthur Hutchison**  
JHutchison@News-Herald.com

Lake County commissioners have approved a factfinder report as part of the collective bargaining negotiations with the union representing Sheriff's Office full-time deputies, court officers and court officer corporals.

Commissioners passed a resolution Tuesday to accept the report after they returned from executive session to discuss collective bargaining and other items.

Sheriff Daniel A. Dunlap said he is unsure whether the union will approve the report. He anticipates the union will vote soon on the matter.

"If they do decide to reject it and go to the next step, which is arbitration, the factfinder's report is part of the arbitration," Dunlap said.

He acknowledges there are concessions by the union.

"I think it's a good deal so we can continue operating this office," the sheriff said.

Commissioner Raymond E. Sines said the report con-

tains items the commissioners asked for and the factfinder recommended.

"Now it's up to the union to accept it or not accept it," Sines said. "This is the best contract we've seen so far."

The factfinder, Westlake attorney Thomas R. Skulina, wrote in the report he leaned away from a reduction in base salary as the county had sought a 1.5 percent reduction for each of the first two years of the contract.

He said the county had bargained that if a series of other savings was accepted by the union, the county would drop the 3 percent reduction.

Skulina recommended:

- No wage increases for the first two years of the contract, with the right to reopen discussions in 2013

- Six furlough days in 2012 and 2013

- A freeze in longevity pay for 2011, 2012 and 2013

- The three personal days will be reduced in 2012

- Sick leave accrued reduced from 15 days to 10 days.